



**Speech**  
**By**  
**Prof. Mabel Imbuga, PhD, EBS**  
**Vice-Chancellor**

**Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology**  
**During**  
**The 5<sup>th</sup> Emerald Knowledge Ambassadors Workshop**  
**On**  
**Wednesday, September 20, 2017**  
**At**  
**SAJOREC**

Emerald team,

Kenya Library Services Consortium executive members,

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic Affairs),

Kenya Library Services Consortium executive members,

University Librarians,

Student Knowledge Ambassadors,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning.

It gives me great pleasure to join you today for the 5<sup>th</sup> Emerald Knowledge Ambassadors Workshop. I take this opportunity to welcome you to Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) and wish to thank the Emerald team for choosing us to host this great event. I am also informed that you are celebrating Emerald 50 years in business. That is no mean feat and I applaud you for your efforts in promoting the use of electronic resources in our universities.

With the advent of the internet, e-resources have become invaluable research tools which complement print based resources in our traditional libraries. They have made research a lot easier giving the researcher access to more information at a

faster rate using limited resources. It is high time institutions of higher learning acknowledge that technology is altering the way in which knowledge is created, accessed, shared and used.

Our libraries, apart from being proactive in developing new partnership and establishing new services, must also demonstrate the value of what they are doing.

This, I believe, can be facilitated by the e-resources material at their disposal.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am proud to note that JKUAT recognises the benefits that a well designed and managed institutional repository brings to the University and came up with a Digital Repository policy. The policy is vital in raising the profile and access to our research output and scholarly publications thus supporting students in scholarly activities and research undertakings.

JKUAT has also been the leading Emerald user institution for the last two years. This would not have been possible without the tremendous effort by the library staff in partnership with the student-knowledge ambassadors.

I take this opportunity to appreciate the role they play in creating awareness and promoting the use of electronic resources. Keep up the good spirit. I look forward to seeing you expanding this partnership to other activities such as building capacity among our research students in publishing their research work.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As I conclude, I once again congratulate Emerald Publishers as you celebrate your **50<sup>th</sup>** Anniversary in research and publishing business. With a database of more than 300 journals and more than 2500 books, I commend your role in supporting learning and research of our young, creative and innovative minds and wish you a brighter future in all your endeavors.

It is now my pleasure to formally declare the *5<sup>th</sup> Emerald Knowledge Ambassadors Workshop*, opened and wish you fruitful deliberations throughout the workshop.

Thank you and *Karibuni sana!*